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LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that, during the period from 14 to 19 April 1993, United States aircraft continued to violate Iraqi airspace for the purpose of surveillance and provocation and to drop heat flares on some areas, as follows.

14 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 26 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 3,000-9,000 m, centred on Mosul, Dohuk, Irbil, Rawanduz, Tall Afar, Dukan and Zakho.

(b) Southern region: 50 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 5,000-9,000 m, centred over Shatrah, Jalibah, Ushbayjah, Basra, Busayyah, Nasiriyah and Artawi.

- At 1413 hours on 14 April 1993, a United States TR-1 aircraft engaged in hostile reconnaissance over Samawah, flying at a speed of 600 km/h and at an altitude of 20,000 m. It departed at 1550 hours on the same day north of Ar'ar in the direction of Saudi Arabia.

15 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 20 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-10,000 m, centred on Mosul, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar, Amadiyah and Rawanduz.

(b) Southern region: 43 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 5,000-9,000 m, centred on Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Salman, Amarah and Busayyah.

16 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 20 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-8,500 m, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Zakho, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 69 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-10,000 m, centred on Nasiriyah, Samawah, Ushbayjah, Qal'at Salih, Qurnah, Jalibah, Busayyah and Salman.

17 April 1993

(a) Northern region: No hostile air activity was recorded in the area on this day.

(b) Southern region: 86 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-8,000 m, centred on Artawi, Nasiriyah, Amarah, Ushbayjah, Salman, Samawah, Basra, Jalibah and Qurnah.

- At 1300 hours on 17 April 1993, a United States TR-1 aircraft was detected engaging in hostile reconnaissance over the area east of Basra. It was flying at a speed of 600 km/h and at an altitude of 20,000 m. At 1513 hours on the same day, it was seen departing in the direction of Kuwaiti airspace.

18 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 18 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,000-8,000 m, centred on Mosul, Irbil, Tall Afar, Zakho and Dohuk.

- At 1305 hours on 18 April 1993, a United States aircraft launched a missile at an air defence site 55 km south of Mosul. As a result of this provocative act of aggression, three Iraqi soldiers were wounded.

(b) Southern region: 59 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,000-9,000 m, centred on Basra, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Ushbayjah and Lasaf.

19 April 1993

(a) Northern region: 14 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 6,500-9,000 m, centred on Mosul, Dohuk, Irbil, Zakho, Tall Afar and Amadiyah.

(b) Southern region: 60 sorties, flown at speeds of 600-900 km/h and at altitudes of 7,500 to 9,000 m, centred on Nasiriyah, Basra, Jalibah, Samawah, Qal'at Salih, Busayyah and Amarah.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative